

Project inspiration from ERF Round 1

Economic Recovery Fund

What could you do with a large grant?

Large grants can go up to £200,000. If you've got lots of ideas that would all work together to benefit your area overall, this could be the right grant for you. Here's what two previous project teams did with theirs.

The Firth Park team

- Renovated the iconic roundabout to give an instant lift to the first impressions of people driving in
- Reduced the height of hedges in the park and provided new planting and benches, creating a safe and welcoming place for people to linger and enjoy treats from the high street
- Delivered a programme of exciting community events including an enhanced Firth Park Summer Festival, to bring people to the area
- Creation of a Business Forum
- Planned benches, planters and a parklet to be installed in early 2023



Broomhill

- Renovated shop fronts throughout the high street in colours appropriate to the area's conservation area status, making first impressions match the quality of the offer inside
- Commissioned branded banners and an eye-catching planting scheme to capture and celebrate the area's uniqueness
- Planned a green wall to jazz up a very visible but boring building and improve air quality on the high street – to be delivered spring 2023



What could you do with a small grant?

Small grants go up to £50,000. They're perfect if you have one key idea that will give your area a boost, or want to start something small that can become self-sustaining and grow over time.

- The Woodhouse team delivered a series of themed markets on the Market Square, with fun family activities. As well as helping local traders connect with customers and reclaiming the square from antisocial behaviour, the markets brought the community together and eased isolation for many residents. Some people said they'd bumped into friends they hadn't seen in years!
- Abbeydale Street Trees created a new parklet: on a small, tarmacked space between two high street businesses, they've installed bespoke planters with integrated seating, large enough for trees as well as flowering plants. This increases local biodiversity levels and creates a pleasant, interesting space for residents and visitors to enjoy the high street.

"The Abbeydale Road parklet creates a new community green space which increases local biodiversity levels, whilst also creating a pleasant and interesting space for local residents, workers and visitors," says Luke Rose of Abbeydale Street Trees. "Crucially a previously uncared for space has been reclaimed from cars in order to benefit both nature and local people."



What do you want to achieve with your project?

Help local businesses to reach new customers

Walkley's team ran big community events where local businesses could reach new customers and highlight themselves at the heart of the community.

Make your high street a more welcoming place to visit

The Nether Edge group enlisted Grow Sheffield to install and maintain new planters and spruce up existing ones. Nether Edge and Sharrow Sustainable Transformation (NESST) are planting over 20 permanent street trees. The team has also found ways to get locals involved in planting and maintaining them.

New bins in Topley have helped keep the high street tidy so litter isn't distracting from all it has to offer. A small project with a great impact!

Hillsborough Together ran a street art project to brighten up roller shutters, so when businesses are closed the high street still looks well used and loved. They also installed new benches, bike parking and planters.

Celebrate and promote your local offer

Choose Chapeltown commissioned an eye-catching, edgy brand to help people see their neighbourhood with fresh eyes. It's splashed on banners along the high street and on Chapeltown Trail maps to encourage visitors to explore.

Created attractions to bring people to our neighbourhoods

Together with partner organisations, lead applicant Site Gallery curated a series of weekend events on CIQ Square. With themes from climate change and sustainability to youth music, they put this lovely but often forgotten space on the map and brought together people from all walks of life.

Manor Park's team worked with a local artist to brighten up a wall at the end of the shopping parade that needed a bit of love! The new mural is inspired by locals' feelings and memories about Manor Park and invite passers by to drop in.

